

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached annotated drawing sheet and replacement drawing sheet make changes to Fig. 4 and replace the original sheets with Fig. 4.

Attachment: Annotated Sheet
 Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 14-22 and 24-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 14, 17-22, 24 and 26 are amended. No new matter is added.

The amendments to the drawings filed on February 8, 2008 were objected to for failing to include annotated drawings. Annotated drawings and replacement drawings are included with this Amendment. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 14-16, 19, 20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi, Japanese Patent Application Publication No. JP-A-2001-241403, in view of Achten, U.S. Patent No. 6,575,076. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 14 calls for a respective pressure medium flow path that is flowable through by a pressure medium in both directions. Applicants respectfully submit that Taguchi fails to disclose these features.

Taguchi contains check valves 20 and 21 which restrict the flow of the pressure medium to a single direction. That is, Taguchi's pressure medium cannot flow from ring-room b to primary hydraulic machine P1 and to tank T because of check values 20 and 21. Further, primary hydraulic machine P1 cannot be used as a hydromotor for the second hydraulic machine P2. Therefore, Taguchi fails to disclose the respective pressure medium flow path is flowable through by a pressure medium in both directions, as called for in claim 14. Further, Achten fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi in view of Achten and further in view of Mitchell, U.S. Patent No. 6,216,456. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 depends from, and is patentable with independent claim 14, as well as for the additional features it recites. As noted above, Taguchi and Achten fail to disclose all of the features of claim 14. Further, Mitchell fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi and Achten. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi in view of Achten and further in view of Gezari, U.S. Patent No. 5,810,125. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 18 depends from, and is patentable with independent claim 14, as well as for the additional features it recites. As noted above, Taguchi and Achten fail to disclose all of the features of claim 14. Further, Gezari fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi and Achten. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi in view of Achten and further in view of Morris, U.S. Patent No. 5,988,330. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 21 depends from, and is patentable with independent claim 14, as well as for the additional features it recites. As noted above, Taguchi and Achten fail to disclose all of the features of claim 14. Further, Morris fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi and Achten. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 24-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi in view of Achten and further in view of Kruckemeyer et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,706,919. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 24-26 depend from, and are patentable with independent claim 14, as well as for the additional features they recite. As noted above, Taguchi and Achten fail to disclose all of the features of claim 14. Further, Kruckemeyer fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi and Achten. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

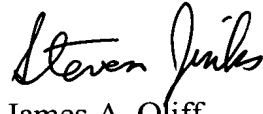
Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Taguchi in view of Achten and further in view of Phelan et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,705,440. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 27 depends from, and is patentable with independent claim 14, as well as for the additional features it recites. As noted above, Taguchi and Achten fail to disclose all of the features of claim 14. Further, Phelan fails to overcome the deficiencies of Taguchi and Achten. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SDJ/wkb

Attachment:

Annotated Fig. 4
Replacement Fig. 4

Date: July 24, 2008

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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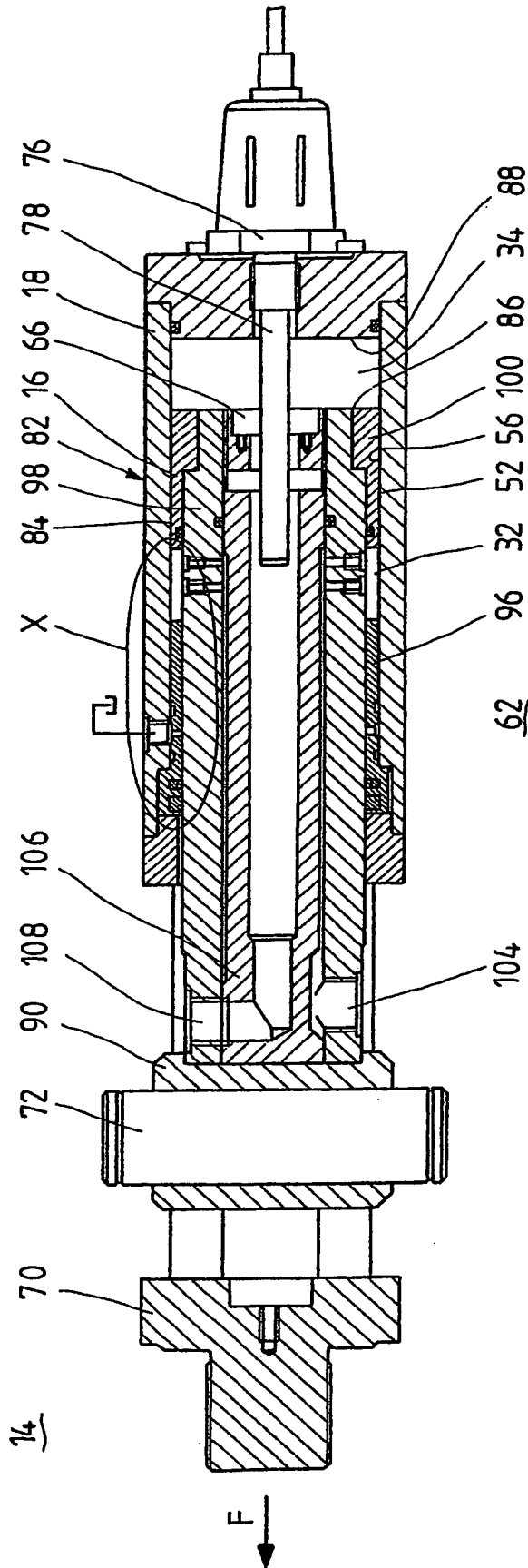


FIG. 4A

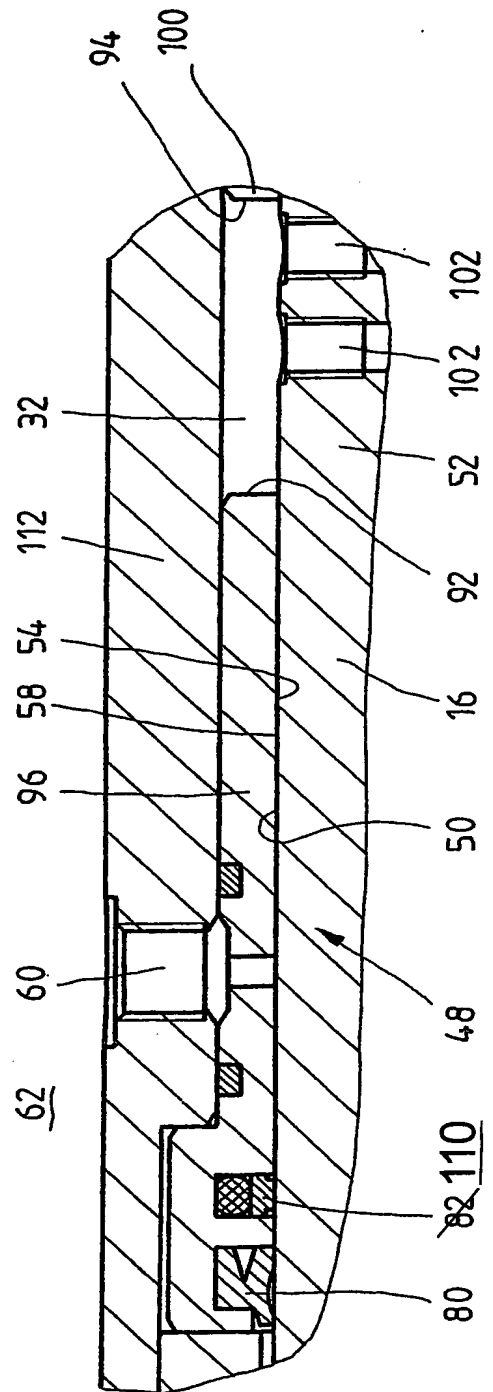
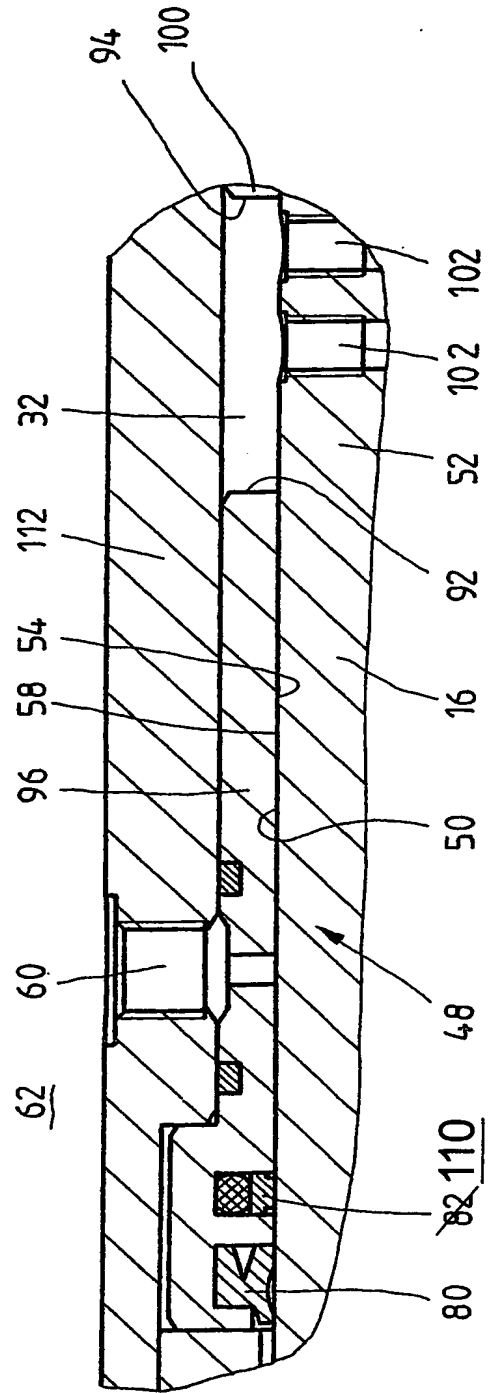
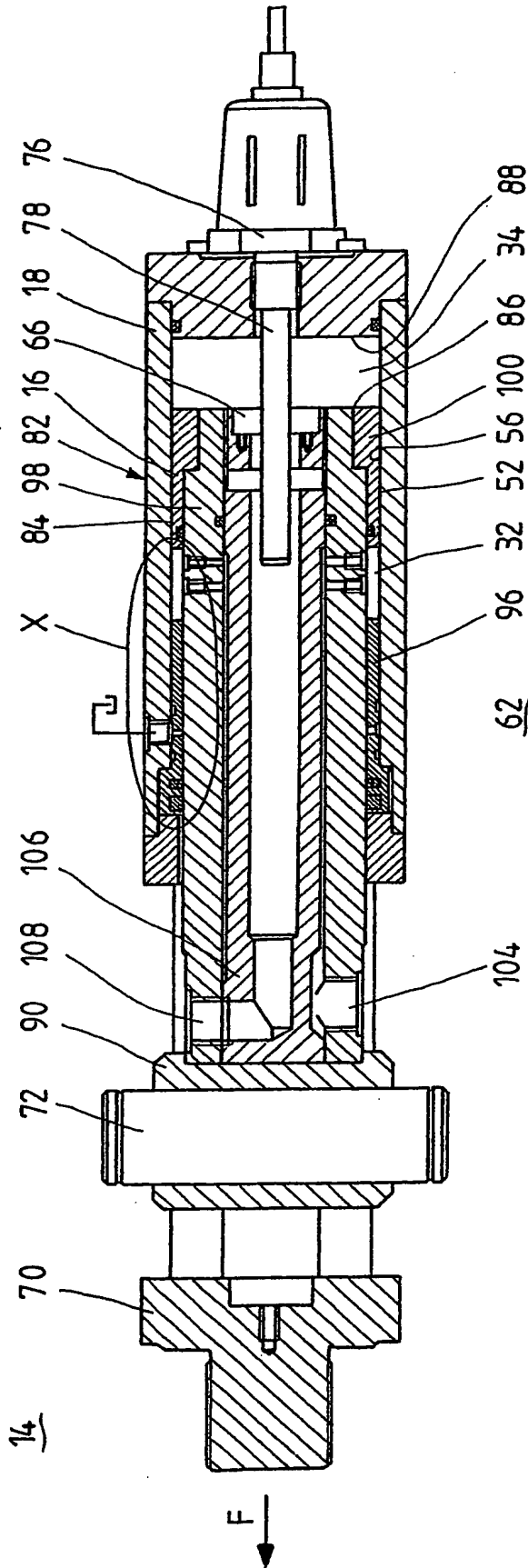


FIG. 4B

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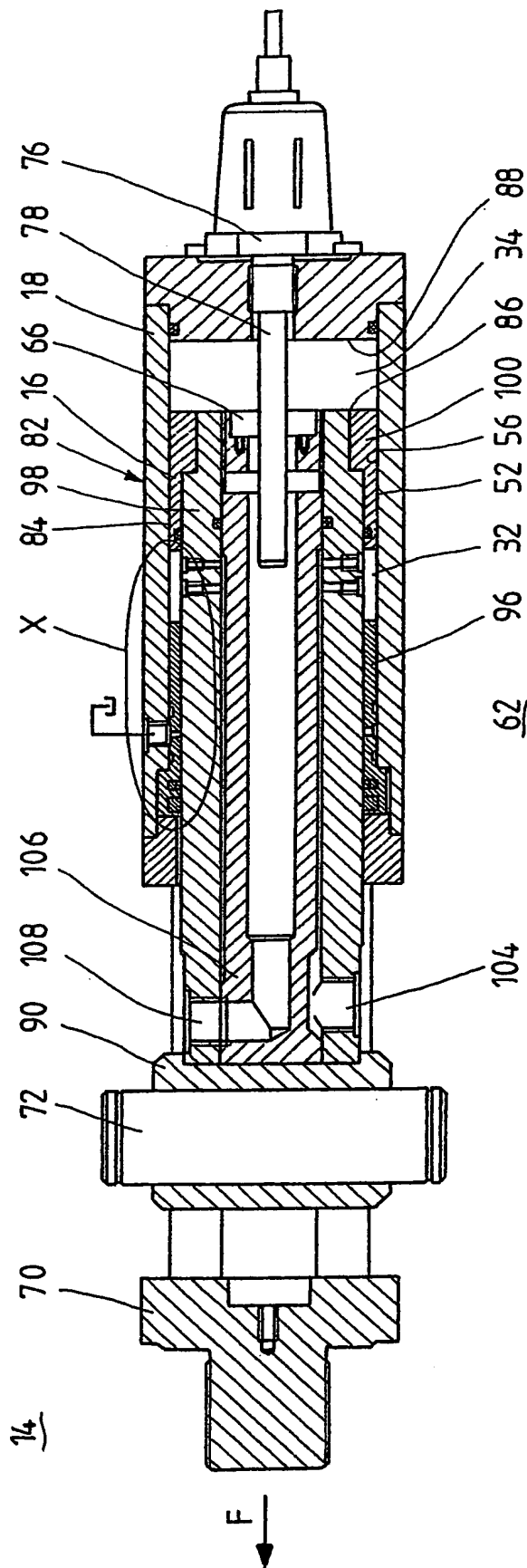


FIG. 4A

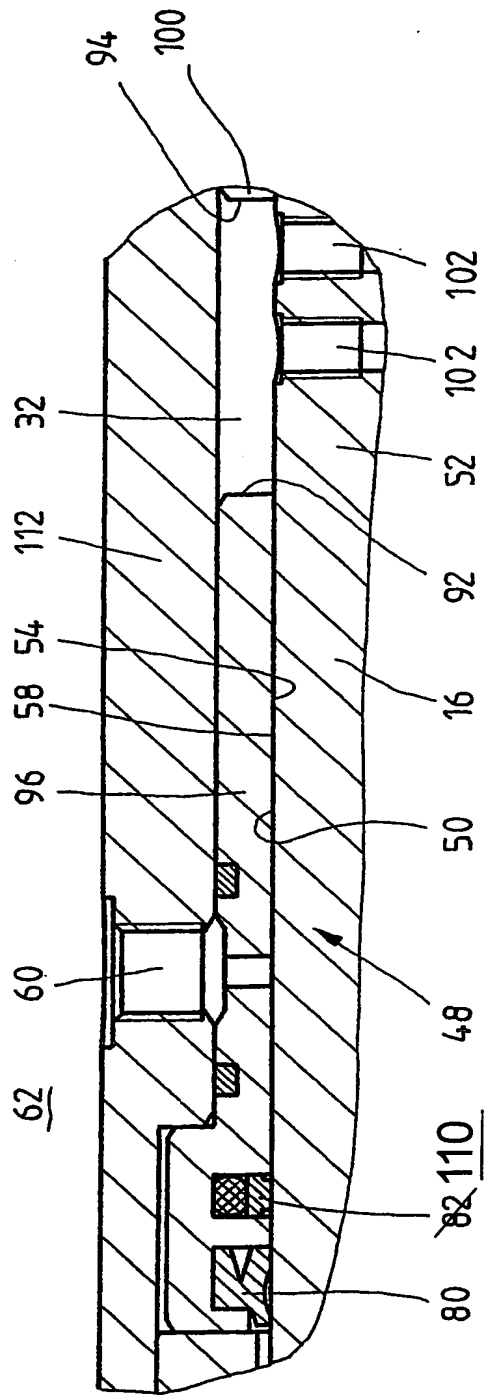


FIG. 4B